GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:245
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2016
Rare Earth Minerals
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Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a)the total annual production of rare earth minerals such as garnet, ilmenite,leucoxene, monazite, rutile, sillimanite and zircon during the last five years;

(b)the details of major States producing such minerals in India;

(c)the details of private players that have been issued licences for production of monazite or extraction of thorium or export of these minerals;

(d)the details of production and processing of monazite by the Indian Rare Earth Limited (IREL) during the last five years and in the current year; and

(e)the total quantity of monazite sold as well as exported by IREL during the last five years including the details with the names of the companies/entities to whom these important minerals were sold?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER"S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a)The total annual production of Rare Earth Minerals during the last 5 years is as follows:

Mineral	2010-11 (in MT)	2011-12 (in MT)	2012-13 (in MT)	2013-14 (in MT)	2014-15* (in MT)
Ilmenite	663217	718612	738524	721959	503282
Rutile	26593	20225	16527	13459	15934
Zircon	33230	25996	21125	19017	14833
Sillimanite	48784	59206	43736	61597	66025
Garnet	2126337	1717904	768248	457626	78924

* M/s V.V. Minerals and M/s Industrial Minerals India Pvt. Ltd., reported zero
Production during the year.
Production of Leucoxene is included in Ilmenite. It is not in the public interest to disclose the production details of Monazite. The above information is as per the Indian Mineral Year Book published by Indian Bureau of Mines.

(b)Major states producing such minerals are Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

(c)"As per Section 2 of Atomic Energy Act, 1962, Monazite is a prescribed substance and no private players have been issued licenses for production of monazite or processing for extracting thorium or the export of these minerals

(d)It is not in the Public Interest to disclose the Monazite production

The production of Monazite is based on its unique physical properties namely high specific gravity (5.1), non-conducting and feebly magnetic nature. Accordingly Monazite is processed using gravity, electrostatic and magnetic separation methods. Specialized equipments such as Floatex, High Tension Separators (HTS), Electrostatic Plate Separators (EPS), Rare Earth Drum Magnetic Separators (REDMS) and Rare Earths Roll Magnetic Separators (RERMS) are used in its separation.

(e) Domestic sales of monazite by IREL during the last five years is Nil.

Details of exports of monazite by IREL during the last five years is as under:

Year	Quantity (MT)	Company
2015-16	6	Chuo Bussan Co, Japan

2014-15 2 Chuo Bussan Co, Japan
2013-14 2 Chuo Bussan Co, Japan
2012-13 Nil
2011-12 4 Chuo Bussan Co, Japan

Total 14

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